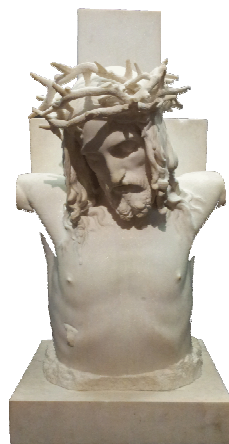


Salisbury Park United Reformed Church

Newsletter

October and November 2017





Salisbury Park United Reformed Church

Percy Road, Wrexham. LL13 7EA

Morning worship every Sunday at 10.45am

Minister Rev Brian Mathews

16 Milebarn Road, Wrexham. LL13 9LX

01978 357845

✉ milebarn@waitrose.com

Serving Elders

Mrs Michelle Berry – 01978 361320

Mrs Shirley Devaney – 01978 366262

Mrs Judith Dolben – 01978 363955

Mr John Houghton – 01978 750778

Mrs Barbara Jones – 01978 755548

Mrs Yvonne Owen – 01978 513421

Mr Mark Rodgers – 01978 290687

A warm welcome to everyone



A word from our minister

Dear everyone,

It is the end of September as I write this and the autumn equinox has past which means the days are getting shorter and the nights longer. There is a real autumnal feel today as it is dry but overcast. During the period of this newsletter the clocks will be put back the hour, we will have had our Harvest Thanksgiving and the days will be much shorter with you know what coming very soon afterwards. Yet it is a time of the year that I love, equally with spring, summer and winter! Every season has a beauty to it and the colours of autumn can be quite spectacular and it is the season of the harvest. I have been out this morning picking apples though I had a few un-Christian thoughts perhaps towards a snail which was up in the tree merrily munching away at an apple. Like a child I will enjoy kicking the piles of leaves on the floor as they fall from the trees and there is something reassuring about drawing the curtains and feeling cosy in our homes in the evening.

These changes remind us constantly that we are on this planet orbiting the sun, floating through space and spinning around every day. We are in the hands of God whose love encircles us and who sustains us having given our lives. Recently on a Sunday morning I spoke about life being a miracle, the very fact that we exist, that we are exactly who we are, that birth and growth exists in us and the rest of the animal and plant life on this earth. It is all God-given and we rejoice in it and marvel at it. The psalmist in Psalm 8 wonders at this and so should we. Our worship of God is to marvel in awesome wonder at this world and the Divine Presence and to respond in joyful thanksgiving at all its beauty and mystery.

Jesus certainly did this and told beautiful stories about a sower sowing seed and told us that the beauty of the most ordinary of plants that flower only briefly are more wonderful than Solomon in all his splendour.

Best wishes to you all,

Brian

Sunday Morning Worship

October 1st 2017

Leading Worship – Mrs Sue Allen

Duty Elder – Mrs Michelle Berry

Morning Tea – Yvonne Owen

Flowers – Mrs Glenys Jones

Door Steward – Gordon Burgess

OT Reading – Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32 **Shirley Devaney**

NT Reading – Matthew 21.23-32 **Carole Blackwell**

Epistle – Phil 2.1-13

Psalm - Psalm 25.1-9

October 8th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Brian Matthews (Communion)

Duty Elder – Mrs Michelle Berry

Morning Tea – Barbara and Sheila

Flowers – Mrs Christine Anderson

Door Steward – Gordon Burgess

OT Reading – Isaiah 5.1-7 **Paul Fewings**

NT Reading – Matthew 21.33-46 **Gordon Burgess**

Epistle – Phil 3.4b-14

Psalm – Psalm 80.7-15



October 15th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Chris Howard

Duty Elder – Mrs Michelle Berry

Morning Tea – Glenys and Merfyn

Flowers – Mrs Shirley Devaney

Door Steward – Gordon Burgess

OT Reading – Isaiah 25.1-9 **Barbara Jones**

NT Reading – Matthew 22.1-14 **Judith Dolben**

Epistle – Phil 4.1-9

Psalm – Psalm 23

October 22nd 2017

Leading Worship – Rev David Salsbury

Duty Elder – Mrs Michelle Berry

Morning Tea – Christine and Michelle

Flowers – Mrs Christine Anderson


Door Steward – Gordon Burgess

OT Reading – Isaiah 45.1-7 **Mark Rodgers**

NT Reading – Matthew 22.15-22 **Corbyn Winter**

Epistle – 1 Thess 1.1-10

Psalm – Psalm 96.1-9,(10-13)



October 29th 2017

Leading Worship – Mrs Judith Dolben

Duty Elder – Mrs Michelle Berry

Morning Tea – Susan Rowlands

Flowers – Mrs Carole Blackwell

Door Steward – Gordon Burgess

OT Reading – Lev 19.1-2,15-18 **Christine Anderson**

NT Reading – Matthew 22.34-46 **Michelle Berry**

Epistle – 1 Thess 2.1-8

Psalm – Psalm 1

November 5th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Brian Matthews (Communion)

Duty Elder – Mrs Yvonne Owen

Morning Tea – Gordon Burgess

Flowers – Mrs Susan Rowlands

Door Steward – Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Micah 3.5-12 **Glenys Jones**

NT Reading – Matthew 23.1-12 **Merfyn Jones**

Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13

Psalm – Psalm 43



November 12th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Chris Howard

Duty Elder – Mrs Yvonne Owen

Morning Tea – Barbara and Sheila

Flowers – Mrs Judith Dolben

Door Steward – Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Amos 5.18-24 **Megan Winter**

NT Reading – Matthew 25.1-13 **Isobel Winter**

Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

Psalm – Psalm 70

November 19th 2017

Leading Worship – Rev Colin Richards

Duty Elder – Mrs Yvonne Owen

Morning Tea – Sharon and Terry

Flowers – Mrs Shirley Devaney

Door Steward – Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Zephaniah 1.7,12-18 **Sharon Langford**

NT Reading – Matthew 25.14-30 **Yvonne Owen**

Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Psalm – Psalm 90.1-8,(9-11),12



November 26th 2017

Leading Worship – Mr Gareth Jones

Duty Elder – Mrs Yvonne Owen

Morning Tea – Shirley

Flowers – Mrs Barbara Jones

Door Steward – Merfyn Jones

OT Reading – Ezekiel 34.11-16,20-24 **John Houghton**

NT Reading – Matthew 25.31-46 **Collette Rodgers**

Epistle – Ephesians 1.15-23

Psalm - Psalm 95.1-7a

Dates for your diary

Coffee Mornings

October 7th @ 10.30am

November 4th @ 10.30am

Craft Club

Second Thursday of every month at 11.30am



Announcements

Well done to the young people in the church who recently sat their GCSE and AS levels. Congratulations to Lydia on gaining excellent GCSE results and we wish her well in her A level studies at Yale. Olivia sat some GCSE's and gained excellent results in readiness for Year 11. Molly and Tomos sat their AS levels and have commenced their A2 studies at Yale. We remember and wish well all our young people in moving to new classes and facing new challenges.

It was with sadness when we heard of the recent loss of Mark's dad, Ray. Our thoughts are with Jennifer, Mark, Colette, Lydia, Hannah and family at this time.

Michelle

Thank you to everyone for your kind words, hugs and cards, since the death of my dad in August, it has meant a lot to us all. Ray was a quiet, private man, but he supported us in all the different events we have taken part in within the church, and would have liked to have attended Salisbury Park more, towards the end of his life, but struggled with the pain. Donations reached nearly £300 for Marie Curie, which is a wonderful amount. Thanks.

Mark



Advanced Notice

It really won't be long until the Christmas fair, and we will be needing items for the various stalls. Listed below is a list of what is needed and if anyone can assist with this, it will be much appreciated, and can be given to myself or anyone on the social events committee to store upstairs.

Thanks You,

Carole.

- Tombola Bottles, (any item in a bottle)
- Pamper stall require toiletries and cosmetics
- Jewellery
- Sweets stall, (boxes or packets)
- Gifts for our Grand Draw

A Big Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards and best wishes during the past few months when Tony has not been well. Tony is feeling better after his recent operation and we hope he will continue to feel better every day. Your kindness has been greatly appreciated.

Many Thanks

Christine and Tony Anderson

“It's good to see you on the mend Tony and we all look forward to seeing you soon.”



Carole's poetry corner

Lord of my life, rule over me
Dwell in my head and heart
Guide me upon this earthly stage
To truly play my part

In serving others day by day
Their burdens to unload
So I may help in every way
As they travel on life's road

Give me the strength to do each task
What e'er that task may be
And may I do it willingly
Because you died for me

Died, because of all my sin
But rose beyond the grave
And plead before the throne of God
My sinful soul to save

Dear Jesus, Lord of all mankind
Make me brave and bold
That when I reach the heavenly heights
Your beauty I'll behold



Riddle me this

Recently our Church Newsletter Editor wore an interesting tee shirt with what seemed to be a secret code emblazoned on the front, it was I recall DD MM YY or even MM DD YY
It seems to refer to dates, nothing more than that.
But it set me thinking and reminded me of a coded message we used to write in School Memory Books as we changed schools or moved areas.

it was this

YY UR

YY UB

IC UR

YY 4 ME

Try and see if you can crack the message before the answer in our next newsletter!!

Judith Dolben

Peter Read's Jokes

A Welshman was shipwrecked at sea and marooned on a desert island. When a passing vessel picked him up five years later the crew were amazed to find his little island covered in fine buildings that he had built himself. With pride, the Welsh Robinson Crusoe took the captain round the island and pointed out to him his house, workshop, electricity generator and two chapels.

“But what do you need the second chapel for?” asked the captain.

“Oh, that’s the one I don’t go to,” he replied.



A blogger's thoughts

I know some of you are on Facebook as I am. This is one of the blogs I follow daily. I read this on Sunday 3rd September before the church service and it just seemed to hit home a little, and then, in church that morning, one of the hymns was “Brother, sister, let me help you, let me be as one with you.” So I thought I’d share it with you.

Feeling Helpless

This morning I have so many things running through my mind. I know I wanted to talk about the devastation in Houston and the surrounding areas but I just can’t seem to narrow my focus. In the wake of a disaster, everything I can say seems inadequate. When someone is hurting, words seem shallow.

I watched a clip where a reporter was covering the disaster and asked a woman a question. The woman was in pain and shock. She had her children with her and she lashed out in anger at the reporter. She kept saying something like, “Why are you sticking that microphone in my face? Can’t you see that I have lost everything? My children are hungry and you are sticking that microphone in my face. Why?”

Frustration, anger, helplessness. All of the things were evident in her outburst.

We have all been there. I have been in both of these ladies’ shoes and I’m sure you have too. I have witnessed someone in pain and I have been that someone in pain. How can you adequately express how bad you feel when a friend has lost a house or a loved one? What words can comfort someone who has just found out they have cancer? When everything that someone has worked for their entire life is flooded and they feel helpless, what can you do?

Prayer

I think sometimes people say they are praying and that we have become almost immune to hearing that. I see all the time that someone puts up a post of loss or hurt and then you will see lots and lots of people commenting, “praying”. That is wonderful but do you really take time to pray or just type the message? I have tried to adopt the habit of stopping what I’m doing and say a small prayer, right there and then because if I don’t do it there and then I get busy and forget.

Action

I think we should always say a prayer for those in need but there are times when we should go a step further. It is not always possible but when we have the opportunity then we should follow our prayer by an action. When someone has lost their home, can we provide clothes or other things they may need? If we know someone who has lost a close friend or family member, could we provide a meal for them. When someone is going through sickness, could we offer to do shopping or cleaning for them? There are so many things we can do to show we care.

Comfort

There are times when there is nothing we can say or do that will help. In those times, a hug or just being there can help. In times of hurt maybe a person needs to know that someone cares, that they have a shoulder to lean on. When we have lost something or someone, a natural response is fear and anger.

Hold your friend, listen to your friend. Empathise with your friend and say a prayer with your friend. Remind them that the Lord is with them and has not forsaken them.

Psalm 50:15

And call upon me in the day of trouble:

I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me.

James 5:13

Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms.

Tania xxx

Submitted by Susan Rowlands

“Thank you for this Susan. It definitely made me think about things reading it. I can see why you follow Tania’s blog.”

Competition Time



Have you seen this figurine? Corbyn has hidden this super hero somewhere in the church and challenges you to find it. Winner receives a chocolate bar! Happy hunting



An appeal

TRUSSLE TRUST/WREXHAM FOODBANK

THANK YOU ALL FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THEFOODBANK. YOUR

DONATIONS ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

AS WINTER APPROACHES FOOD NEEDS CHANGE. I HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR THE

FOLLOWING (AS WELL AS ALL USUAL TINS ETC)

TINNED TOMATOES

RICE PUDDING

COFFEE

TEA

LONG LIFE MILK-SMALL AND LARGE CARTONS

FRUIT JUICE – SMALL AND LARGE CARTONS

WINTER SOUPS

TINNED MEAT (CASSEROLE ETC)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

WREXHAM FEEDING THE ROOFLESS

WE STILL NEED TUNA AND HAM FOR FEEDING THE ROOFLESS OR ANY

MONETARY DONATIONS TO HELP TOWARDS THE MILK, FRUIT, SPREAD,SALAD

CREAM ETC. WE NOW ONLY DO WEEKENDS AND BANK HOLIDAYS WHICH WE

UNDERTAKE FROM TRINITY CHURCH BACK DOOR. THIS IS A MUCH PLEASANTER

PLACE TO DISTRIBUTE FOOD AND DRINKS AND WEARE VERY GRATEFUL TO THE

CHURCH FOR ALLOWING THIS TO HAPPEN.

BARBARA

The wider church



Is it I, Lord?

Ministry Enquirers' Day
Saturday 4 November 2017

10am-4pm

Westminster College, Cambridge



- Explore opportunities for service through the United Reformed Church
 - Ask the questions that are on your mind and heart
- Hear from people engaged in a variety of lay and ordained ministries
 - Listen for the voice of God as we worship and pray together

For full details contact:

Vivienne Williams

T: 020 7916 8649 E: vivienne.williams@urc.org.uk

URC Youth #URCYA18 Youth Assembly 2018

Pilgrimage: Are we there yet?

19 to 21 January 2018
Whitemoor Lakes, Alrewas, Staffs

A weekend to focus on Jesus, to share in community with other young people, and to explore what it means to be church together.

Cost before 9 November: £110
Cost on or after 9 November: £140
Age: Year 10/S3 to 25 years (inclusive)
Financial help available if needed

'APPRECIATING ADVENT'

Weekend Conference for Worship Leaders & Lay Preachers in pastorate churches of The United Reformed Church, Wales Synod.

October 6 – 8 at The Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells

With a programme of shared workshops, study sessions, and worship in preparation for the Season of Advent.

Gatherings for this annual lay training event are a mix of lively and quiet occasions, with time to listen and share, to learn and unwind.

This invitation is for you to come, perhaps for the first time. We meet as friends old and new from across Wales, and, as always, there is a warm welcome for all.

Residential and conference costs are subsidised through the support of the URC National Synod of Wales, with options for sharing on a non-residential basis – joining sessions of your choosing.

For further details and bookings contact:-
David Clarkson: david_clarkson@btinternet.com 01244 815857

Three Synod's Youth Weekend

17th to 19th
NOVEMBER

At
THE PIONEER CENTRE
KIDDERMINSTER.

This is a chance to meet together, have fun together.

If you are between 11 and 17 then we hope you'll join us.

This is an inclusive event at which everyone is welcome, Fun, adventure, creativity and positive experience are at the heart of this event.

How much does it cost—£69

How do I get involved? - Just fill in the form and send it to Judy, Chris or Jane

GOOD GRIEF

An event organised by the Wales Synod's Good Grief Group

A mini conference for everything you've ever wanted to ask about funerals

3.00pm - 7.00pm Tuesday 14 November 2017

The Whittaker Lounge
Beulah United Reformed Church
Beulah Road/Heol Y Deri
CF14 6LT
with afternoon cream tea

Site visits to the Crematorium and a Funeral Directors

Who is it for? Anyone with any interest in what makes a funeral good

Places are limited for further information or to book:
Please contact Helen Stenson
URC Wales Synod Office
Minster Road
CARDIFF
CF22 5AS
TEL 02920 195729
office@urc.wales.org.uk



Taking part
Green Willow Funeral Directors
Crematoria and Cemetery staff
Byw Nawr (Living Well)
Funeral Celebrants